

## Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of making a snack food product, comprising:  
mixing potato product and corn product to form a dough;  
rolling the dough into a dual-sheeted dough;  
cutting the dual-sheeted dough into character-shaped forms having a main body portion and a plurality of appendages extending from the main body portion, wherein the appendages have smaller dimensions than the main body portion; and  
frying the character-shaped forms to produce the snack food product having an outer shell and a hollow interior, wherein the corn product increases hardness of the outer shell of the character-shaped form to reduce breakage of the appendages during handling and storage.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the potato product is potato flake.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the corn product is corn flour.
4. The method of claim 1, further including the steps of:  
storing the potato product in a first hopper;  
storing the corn product in a second hopper;  
dispensing the potato product from the first hopper into a mixer;  
dispensing the corn product from the second hopper into the mixer; and  
blending the potato product and the corn product to form the dough.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the character-shaped form

is a rabbit, bird, dog, or devil.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the appendage is a leg, foot, arm, or ear.

7. A method of making a snack food product, comprising:  
forming a dough mixture including a hardening agent;  
rolling the dough mixture into a sheeted dough;  
cutting the sheeted dough into forms having a main portion and an extension extending from the main portion, wherein the extension has smaller dimensions than the main portion; and  
frying the forms to produce the snack food product having an outer shell, wherein the hardening agent increases stiffness of the outer shell of the form to reduce breakage of the extension.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the step of rolling the dough mixture includes the steps of:  
forming a first sheet of dough from the dough mixture;  
forming a second sheet of dough from the dough mixture;  
and  
combining the first and second sheets of dough to provide a dual-sheeted dough.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the hardening agent is selected from the group consisting of corn flour, rice flour, and wheat flour.

10. The method of claim 7, further including the steps of:  
storing the hardening agent in a hopper;  
dispensing the hardening agent from the hopper into a mixer; and  
blending the hardening agent with other ingredients to form the dough mixture.

11. The method of claim 7, wherein the form is a rabbit, bird, dog, or devil.

12. The method of claim 7, wherein the extension is a leg, foot, arm, or ear.

13. A snack food product made by a process comprising the steps of:

forming a dough mixture including a hardening agent;

rolling the dough mixture into a sheeted dough;

cutting the sheeted dough into forms having a main portion and an extension extending from the main portion, wherein the extension has smaller dimensions than the main portion; and

frying the forms to produce the snack food product having an outer shell, wherein the hardening agent increases stiffness of the outer shell of the form to reduce breakage of the extension.

14. The snack food product of claim 13, wherein the step of rolling the dough mixture includes the steps of:

forming a first sheet of dough from the dough mixture;

forming a second sheet of dough from the dough mixture;

and

combining the first and second sheets of dough to provide a dual-sheeted dough.

15. The snack food product of claim 13, wherein the hardening agent product is selected from the group consisting of corn flour, rice flour, and wheat flour.

16. The snack food product of claim 13, further including the steps of:

storing the hardening agent in a hopper;

dispensing the hardening agent from the hopper into a mixer; and

blending the hardening agent with other ingredients to form the dough mixture.

17. The snack food product of claim 13, wherein the form is a rabbit, bird, dog, or devil.

18. The snack food product of claim 17, wherein the extension is a leg, foot, arm, or ear.

19. A snack food product, comprising a character-shaped form having an outer shell made from a mixture comprising potato product and corn product, the character-shaped form having a main body portion and a plurality of appendages extending from the main body portion, the appendages having smaller dimensions than the main body portion, wherein the corn product provides hardness to the character-shaped form to reduce breakage of the appendages during handling and storage.

20. The snack food product of claim 19, wherein the corn product is corn flour.

21. The snack food product of claim 19, wherein the form is a rabbit, bird, dog, or devil.

22. The snack food product of claim 21, wherein the extension is a leg, foot, arm, or ear.

23. A snack food product, comprising a form having an outer shell made from a dough mixture comprising a hardening agent, the form having a main portion and an extension from the main portion, the extension having smaller dimensions than the main portion, wherein the hardening agent provides stiffness to the

outer shell to reduce breakage of the extension.

24. The snack food product of claim 23, wherein the hardening agent is selected from the group consisting of corn flour, rice flour, and wheat flour.

25. The snack food product of claim 23, wherein the form is a rabbit, bird, dog, or devil.

26. The snack food product of claim 25, wherein the extension is a leg, foot, arm, or ear.